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On 05/22/03

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: George K. Hardin

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 018781-005810US  
Client Ref. No.: T00-008-1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

POWERS et al.

Application No.: 09/828,270

Filed: April 5, 2001

For: NS5B HCV POLYMERASE  
INHIBITORS

Examiner: Robert Gerstl

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1626

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 24, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks. A petition for a two-month extension of time is filed concurrently herewith.

This amendment has been prepared under the newly revised format set forth by the USPTO in the Office of Patent Legal Administration Pre-OG Notice of January 31, 2003. It is Applicants understanding that by following the provisions of the new format, the provisions under 37 CFR § 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments to the claims, specification and drawings.